

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars.

1. In the claims

As shown in the foregoing AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS, the claims have been amended to more clearly point out the subject matter for which protection is sought.

Claim 1 is amended to include the allowable subject matter of original claim 2. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added since the amendment merely merges the subject matter of originally filed claims.

Claim 2 is canceled and the subject matter thereof added to amended claim 1.

Claims 3-8 are left unchanged.

Claim 9 is canceled.

New claim 10 merges the subject matter of original claim 1 with the allowable subject matter of original claim 4. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added since the amendment merely merges the subject matter of originally filed claims.

New claim 11 merges the subject matter of original claim 1 with the allowable subject matter of original claim 6. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added since the amendment merely merges the subject matter of originally filed claims.

New claim 12 is a mirror of original claim 7, which depends from claim 6. New claim 12 depends from new claim 11, which incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1 and 6. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added since the amendment merely merges the subject matter of originally filed claims.

New claim 13 merges the subject matter of original claim 1 with the allowable subject matter of original claim 8. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is

added since the amendment merely merges the subject matter of originally filed claims.

Entry of the AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

2. Rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 1,633, 806 (*Crawford*)

This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 9.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

3. Rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 6,484,846 (*Parker*)

This rejection is rendered moot by the inclusion in claim 1 of the allowable subject matter of original claim 2. Claims 3, 5, and 7 depend from claim 1, and are therefore patentable as containing all of the recited elements of claim 1, as well as for their respective recited features.

In view of the indication that claim 2 contains allowable subject matter, it is clear that the prior art fails to disclose a gearbox for a gardening machine having the recited features in combination with a housing having a bottom cover shell, a top cover shell connected with said bottom cover shell, and a transmission chamber in communication with the receiving chamber and outside for receiving a driving source for rotation of the transmission gear wheel, said top cover shell having a filling hole in communication with said receiving chamber for filling lubricating oil therein.

Accordingly, since the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the particular combination of recited features, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As mentioned above, applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable and therefore, claims 3, 5, and 7, which depend from claim 1, are also considered to be patentable as containing all of the elements of claim 1, as well as for their respective recited features.

4. Allowable subject matter

The applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 4, 6, and 8. Accordingly, the allowable subject matter of claim 2 has been merged with the subject matter of claim 1. Furthermore, the allowable subject matter of claims 4, 6, and 8 has been respectively merged with claim 1 to present new claims 10, 11, and 13.

With respect to claim 10, in view of the indication that claim 4 contains allowable subject matter, it is clear that the prior art fails to disclose a gearbox for a gardening machine having the recited features in combination with a transmission gear wheel that has a center through hole and an inner thread formed in the center through hole, the lubricating blade has a locating hole, and the eccentric shaft assembly had a first eccentric wheel, a second eccentric wheel, a first transmission bar coupled to the first eccentric wheel, and a second transmission bar coupled to the second eccentric wheel, the first eccentric wheel and the second eccentric wheel each comprising a wheel body and a wheel axle eccentrically extended from one side of the wheel body, the wheel bodies of the eccentric wheels being partially attached to each other to have the wheel axles aligned with each other, the wheel axle of the first eccentric wheel having an outer thread threaded into the inner thread of the transmission gear wheel, the wheel axle of the second eccentric wheel having a locating rod coupled to the locating hole of the lubricating blade, the first and second transmission bars each having a coupling end, an actuating end connectable to the cutter of the gardening machine, and a coupling hole formed at the coupling end, the wheel bodies of the first and second eccentric wheels being respectively supported on needle bearings in the coupling holes of the first and second transmission bars for allowing the first and second transmission bars to be rotated relative to the wheel bodies of the first and second eccentric wheels.

With respect to claim 11, in view of the indication that claim 6 contains allowable subject matter, it is clear that the prior art fails to disclose a gearbox for a gardening machine having the recited features in combination with a lubricating blade

having a flat center portion, and the arched grooves are respectively radially extended around the flat center portion and each comprises two ends, one end being higher than the other end in elevation, and the arched grooves each further having a decreasing width from the one end toward the other end.

With respect to new claim 12, claim 12 depends from claim 11 and is therefore patentable as containing all of the recited elements of claim 11, as well as for its respective recited features.

With respect to claim 13, in view of the indication that claim 8 contains allowable subject matter, it is clear that the prior art fails to disclose a gearbox for a gardening machine having the recited features in combination with a transmission gear wheel having a wheelbase, a plurality of teeth arranged around an outer periphery of the wheelbase, a center through hole axially running through two opposite sides of a center thereof, two central areas formed around the center through hole thereof, two recessed portions respectively formed around the two central areas, and a plurality of openings cut through the recessed portions, where the thickness between the recessed portions of the transmission gear wheel are relatively smaller than the central areas and the outer periphery of the wheelbase.

Accordingly, in view of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

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5. Conclusion

As a result of the amendment to the claims, and further in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicant's attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176
Phone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

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Respectfully submitted,


PATRICK M. BUECHNER
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 57,504